

## Interlocking Concrete Pavers Building a Pavement to Last a Lifetime

### SUPPLIER

Interlocking concrete pavers create a beautiful and durable pavement which should last a minimum of 30 years when installed correctly. Other pavements such as asphalt or poured concrete experience a shorter life. A well-designed and durable project can depend on you taking a little extra time making the right decisions to get the best possible results.



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## Knowing your contractor

Just knowing something about a contractor isn't enough. In order to ensure a quality installation, you should ask questions of the contractor like:

- How long have they been installing pavers?
- Have they been trained by a manufacturer or by the ICPI? Do they have written certificate of completion?
- What percentage of their total business consists installing concrete pavers?
- Will they provide you with three references, not only recent ones, but from past jobs?
- Can you contact their references and inspect the jobs?
- Do they have a portfolio of photos and letters to qualify themselves?
- Are they in good credit standing?
- Do they have a current liability insurance certificate? While the contractor is on your property, they should be insured for any damage and injuries that may occur. Check your homeowner's insurance policy for coverage of the contractor while on your property.
- Can the contractor provide proof that Worker Compensation insurance covers all on the job?
- Do they install the job per ICPI specifications? Can they supply a copy?
- Do they provide a written, itemized proposal outlining the scope of work and terms of payment? It should include starting and completion dates, demolition and excavation, paving and base materials, and taxes.
- Do they guarantee their work for one year? Will they return in a year to inspect it?
- Are they members of the ICPI or other associations?

With answers to these questions and others you might have, plus answers on how to know when the installation is being done right, you should be able to select a competent contractor.

Be sure to contact your supplier or the ICPI regarding proper installation of the particular paving products you have selected. Ask your contractor if these procedures will be followed. If you are a do-it-yourselfer, make sure that you contact your supplier for detailed installation instructions.

With all these specific questions answered, you may still have some general questions. The following are some of the most common questions with answers.

### GENERAL NOTES / QUESTIONS

**How long do concrete pavers last?** 30 years which is much longer than other pavements under normal residential use.

**Can dirty or broken pavers be replaced?** Yes, you can be assured of replacement pavers by keeping extras from the job. When replacing a paver, scrape out the sand in the joints from those surrounding the paver to be removed. Use two screwdrivers to wiggle it out. Others can be removed by hand. Insert the new paver, replace the joint sand, compacting the paver into place with a rubber mallet.

**Will freezing and thawing damage pavers?** No, damage from ice is virtually non-existent. The joints allow the pavers to move without cracking in freeze and thaw cycles.

**If pavers need to be removed for below grade repairs, can I replace them afterwards?** Yes, unlike other pavements, concrete pavers can be easily removed and reinstated without any visual or functional changes.

**Will pavers be slippery?** No, their surface texture is ideal for obtaining safe traction in pedestrian, vehicular, and pool applications, even when wet.

Additional questions you may have can be answered by a manufacturer's representative, a contractor, or the ICPI.

Your concrete paver project is just like any other home improvement. Do your homework, and reap the rewards for years to come. Enjoy!

## CHECKLIST

### CONTRACTOR INFORMATION

#### 1 Company Name

Address  
Phone #  
Contact

#### 2 Workmanship Warranty (yrs)

#### 3 Job References

Name  
Address  
Phone #  
Date Installed

### INSTALLATION PROCEDURES

#### 1 Excavation

a) Depth  
b) Width  
c) Final Elevation Agreed Upon

#### 2 Base Construction

a) Type of Material  
b) Depth of Material  
-- walkway (min 4")  
-- driveway (min 8")  
c) Compaction  
-- with moisture  
-- maximum 4" layers  
d) Woven Geotextile (optional)

#### 3 Bedding Layer

a) Coarse Sharp Sand  
ie. concrete sand  
b) Depth (max 1 1/2")

#### 4 Pavers

a) Quantity (Sq. Ft.)  
b) Supplier  
c) Warranty  
d) Shape  
e) Color  
f) Laying Pattern

#### 5 Edge Restraints

a) Type  
b) Quantity (Lin. Ft.)  
c) Base Extends  
beyond (min 6")

#### 6 Jointing Sand

a) Fine Washed Sand  
ie. masonry sand  
b) Compact in Both Directions  
c) Sweeps into Joints

### TOTAL COST

### NOTES